

**Tourist Trap**

**Part of RAUMTEILEN (sharing space) action in public spaces and of the MPA-B (Month of performance art Berlin) 2012**

**Location: Brandenburger Tor**

**16 Mai 2012 between 17:00 – 21:00**

**Installative costume: Maria Reyes Perez**

**Time: Long Durational**

Photos: Paul Holdsworth, & Daniela G. del Pomar, Knut Honsell, *Roland* Laub

Video: Noam Gorbat

Fascinated by the role of memorials I “trap” tourist inside a costume which extends my arms at the high touristy Brandenburg gate at the heart of Berlin and persuade them to join me to a unique guided tour. The 3 min. walking distance site is a still under construction memorial for the Sinti and Roma who were murdered under the Nazi regime designed by Israeli sculpture Dani Karavan

The construction begun in 2008 and were stopped due to disagreements between the artist and the municipality of Berlin. The fact that the site stands deserted for such a long time reminds the discrimination and of the members of the Roma and Sinti community in Europe in a bitter poetical sense. The performance was done in order to bring to light the deceleration on the construction of the memorial and as solidarity with the victims’ families.

Tens of thousands of tourists visits the Brandenburg gate every year, very few have the time to wander around and discover the, still under construction, memorial to the Sinti and Roma.

In the performance **Tourist Trap** I invite tourists to join me to see the construction, raising questions about memorials in general and this one in particular.

The work in the site.

“...memorials tend to become part of the city. Locals can get use to them, to skip them as if they were a dead zone but tourists are constantly re-establishing their role. Impressive as they are, memorials can remind people of the horror of the history but fail to prevent them of repeating themselves. And maybe it is not their duty in the first place” (Dovrat Meron)

Like a wound they bleed for a while but than becomes a scar. Turning them into tourist attraction is like pilling it again and again preventing a natural healing process in the good case in the bad case they becomes just another tourist site where people take snap shots and store it in another 3 Tera Bites of vacation photos.

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